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May 22, 2006

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: U.S. Patent Appl. No. 10/620,617 for
VISCOSITY STABLE SMECTITE CLAY SLURRIES
Attorney Docket No.: 080395.52547C1 (051344-5037)

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing in connection with the above-referenced patent application are the following:

1. Amendment with Authorization to Charge Deposit Account with copy of Authorization Page (9 pages);
2. Petition for A Two-Month Extension of Time and Fee Transmittal with Authorization to Charge Deposit Account with copy (1 page each for a total of 2 pages);
3. Power of Attorney to Prosecute Applications Before the USPTO (1 page);
4. Statement Under 37 C.F.R. 3.73(b) (1 page); and
5. Self Addressed Post Card.

Kindly acknowledge receipt of these documents by returning the enclosed self-addressed, stamped postcard.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8)

I hereby certify that this paper and the papers and/or fees referred to herein as transmitted, submitted or enclosed, are being deposited on the date shown below with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Name: Sharon B. McCullen Signature:  Date of Deposit: May 22, 2006

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees required in connection with this filing to Deposit Account No. **50-0310**. A duplicate of this authorization is enclosed.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Sharon B. McCullen".

Sharon B. McCullen